

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 066029

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ORIGIN AGR-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EB-11 SCI-06 NAS-01 NSF-04 AEC-11

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DRAFTED BY USDA/FAS:JMBESHOAR

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR,TGEN,US

SUBJECT: US-USSR AGREEMENT ON AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION: PRESS
COMMENTS ON SOVIET ECONOMIC DATA SUBMISSIONS

1. ARTICLE IN SCIENCE MAGAZINE (MARCH 22) BASED ON INTERVIEWS
WITH USDA OFFICIALS, AND STEPHEN ROSENFELD COLUMN IN
WASHINGTON POST BASED ON SCIENCE MAGAZINE ARTICLE, ARE HIGHLY
CRITICAL OF SOVIET ECONOMIC DATA SUBMISSIONS UNDER US-USSR
AGREEMENT AND SUGGEST THAT SOVIETS ARE NOT RPT NOT MEETING
THEIR COMMITMENTS. COPIES BEING POUCHED TO AGATT.

2. AFTER EVALUATING DATA SUBMITTED TO AGATT MARCH 6, USDA
BELIEVES SOVIETS ARE MORE OR LESS IN ACCORD WITH LETTER
OF AGREEMENT REACHED DURING NOVEMBER MEETING OF JOINT COMMITTEE
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ANF CONOMIC WORKING GROUP, ALTHOUGH THEIR SUBMISSIONS HAVE

BEEN PERFUNCTORY AND THERE ARE SOME TECHNICAL DEFICIENCIES.

3. CHAIRMAN OF U.S. SIDE OF WG IS WRITING TO SOVIET COUNTER-PART, G. RUDENKO WITH FULL EXPLANATION OF WHAT USDA BELIEVES IS LACKING. IF SOVIETS APPROACH AGATT ON THE TWO ARTICLES PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF LETTER TO RUDENKO FROM USSR AGREEMENTS SECRETARIAT, AGATT SHOULD NOTE THAT ARTICLES WERE BASED ON PERSONAL OPINIONS OF DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL AND DO NOT REPRESENT

VIEWS OF DEPARTMENT. IN ADDITION AGATT MAY RESPOND THAT, ON BASIS OF MARCH 6 DATA SUBMISSIONS, USDA ASSUMES THAT DEFICIENCIES ARE ONLY TECHNICAL AND CAN BE WORKED OUT WHEN SOVIETS HAVE CLEARER PICTURE FROM LETTER TO RUDENKO OF WHAT USDA EXPECTS TO RECEIVE ON BASIS OF DISCUSSIONS AND AGREEMENT AT NOVEMBER MEETING.

4. SPECIFIC DEFICIENCIES IN DATA, SHOULD STVIETS INQUIRE PRIOR TO RECEIPT LETTER TO RUDENKO, ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. PRELIMINARY STATISTICS ON AREA, YIELD AND PRODUCTION OF ALL CROPS IN 1973. WE EXPECTED TO RECEIVE COPY OF REPORT BY CENTRAL STATISTICAL ADMINISTRATION SIMILAR TO ONE ON CROP AREAS PROVIDED AT NOVEMBER MEETING. MATERIAL RECEIVED LACKS BREAKDOWN WHEAT AND BARLEY BY WINTER AND SPRING TYPES AND DATA ON TOBACCO AND MAJOR FORAGE CROPS, SUCH AS CORN FOR SILAGE AND GREEN CHOP, HAY AND HAYLAGE AND FEED BEETS.

B. PRELIMINARY STATISTICS ON LIVESTOCK NUMBERS. WE EXPECTED NATIONAL SUMMARY MORE DISAGGREGATED THAN RECEIVED SO FAR. ALSO ALTHOUGH FEBRUARY POULTRY NUMBERS RECEIVED, WE HAD ALSO EXPECTED JANUARY FIGURES.

C. DATA ON INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT OF FOOD COMMODITIES QUITE GOOD. JANUARY LIST OF OUTPUTS LACKS ONLY EDIBLE ANIMAL FATS (EXCLUDING BUTTER) AND DRY WHOLE MILK.

D. HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED 1974 PLANS ON STATE PROCUREMENTS OF MAJOR CROPS AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS.
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